756 [352] head man placed five folded carrying bags, one with a stone inside belonging to the novice; a paper package; two stones; and the basket with the feathers. These stones were not part of the *sịą́* and were handed to the chief medicine man by his wife. As each object was put on the bench, every medicine man and the aspirant had to put a hand on it. The principal medicine man took the basket and put it first on the stool and then on the earthen floor of the house and announced that it was time to rest. All got up.

At this point, the first wife of the head man handed him a gourd lined with banana leaves and filled with hot chocolate (unsweetened). He took it and all left the main house, singing, and went to a smaller one where there was a kitchen. There they said to two women who were cooking by the fire, "*ịɛkeʒichərkɛ́*" (here many people do not fit), and "*sịą́ tsurú ibaɨ sịą́*" (*sịą́* chocolate heat for *sịą́*).

[824] Then they took a pile of *bijagua* (*Calathea insignis* Petersen) leaves from a *tabanco* and brought it to the first house saying, "*ʒəbi* (this stands for *sịą́*) *dibaLa* (chocolate hot; if *ʒəbi* were not before this word, it would mean water hot, but the name for the stones changes the meaning) *mekɛ́* (put)." This is a phrase used ceremoniously. Freely translated it signifies, "They are going to heat chocolate for *ʒəbi*."

The witnesses answered, "*ékékɛ́*" (good).

The medicine men brought in the chocolate in an iron pot and placed it on the floor beside the bench with the stones, another bunch of leaves, and leaf-wrapped packages of white maize chicha. The *bijaguas* were to be used as cups for the chocolate. They said to those present, "Wait. We are going to serve the feast." All replied, "Good."

They brought in more leaves and a child came with water in a gourd. This was immediately taken by a medicine man and was placed on leaves on the floor beside the bench.

The first wife of the head medicine man and another woman sat on a long bench. They were to serve the feast. All women who participate in this ceremony must be old or at [887] least middle-aged. The men sat opposite on another long bench and the chief one began to chant, "*milkadioʒək*" (let's drink this). Each medicine man, always holding his staff and